



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
**730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476**  
**Phone: 781-316-3000**

**webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us**

## **Cultural Council Minutes 05/12/2005**

**Subject: Meeting Minutes 5-12-05**

**Arlington Arts Council**  
**Minutes of~May 12th~2005**  
**Robbins Library**  
**Arlington, MA**

**Present:** Mary Babic, Betsy Campbell, Tom Formicola, Elinore Kagan, Michele Meagher, Amy Peters, and Margaret Ryding

**Absent:** Shari Craig, Karen Dillon, Cheryl Hemenway, Suzanne McLeod, Leland Stein, and Jean Yoder

Mary Babic called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

The first item of business was a review of the minutes taken at the April meeting. As no changes or corrections were recommended, Mary Babic moved that the minutes be approved as submitted. Elinore Kagan seconded the motion. None were opposed.

Next, it was noted that there were no Requests for Payment to be reviewed.

Elinore Kagan continued with an announcement that the Arlington Friends of Drama had returned unused funds contributed by the Arlington Cultural Council, explaining that other sources of income were ultimately sufficient for covering project expenses incurred.

Betsy Campbell and Margaret Ryding reported on the progress of the Fundraising Committee to plan an event that would generate new income to be distributed by the Arlington Cultural Council in future cycles. They explained that committee members had recently met with Michael Bedford of the Arlington Center for the Arts to explore a possible collaboration between the two organizations and to brainstorm ideas regarding what shape the event might take. Responses were enthusiastic. Leland Stein is currently assessing interest among area performing artists who might draw audiences to the Regent Theatre. It was also suggested that the event might include a silent auction. An April 2006 date is currently being targeted.

The conversation segued as participating members wondered if the proposed fundraising event presented an opportunity to give priority to performing arts projects in the next grant cycle. It was noted that giving priority to public art projects had also been discussed at an earlier meeting. It was generally agreed that more discussion should follow on the topic as guidelines are revised for the fall.

A brief discussion followed about the solicitation of community input. It was agreed that the survey administered in February and feedback collected at the Annual Town Day Celebration in the summer were sufficient to meet the Arlington Cultural Council's present needs and the state's requirements.

More discussion followed about changing the Arlington Cultural Council's regular meetings to the first Monday (as opposed to the first Thursday) of each month at the Cutter House (as opposed to Robbins Library). Members agreed to see how these new meetings might run on a trial basis. It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Arlington Cultural Council would be conducted on Monday, June 6, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. at the Cutter House.

There was no other business.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**

**Respectfully~submitted by Tom Formicola.**